



This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did. 1 John 2:5b-6

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Questions, Questions, Questions

The Most Important Question: ¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ “Well,” they replied, “some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets.” ¹⁵ Then he asked them, **“But who do you say I am?”** ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” (Matthew 16:13-16, Mark 8:27-30)

Who do you say Jesus is?

Mark 8:1-38

5 Stories of Jesus in Action

1. Jesus again feeds thousands of people (vs. 1-13)
2. Jesus warns & teaches His disciples (vs. 14-21)
3. Jesus heals a blind man (vs. 22-26)
4. Peter’s open confession (vs.27-30)
5. Jesus predicts His death & resurrection (vs. 31-38)

Background

- Climax & Shift in Jesus’ Ministry: Mark 8:27ff
- Ministry in Galilee: Mark 1-7
- Focus on Jerusalem & Passion Mark 8-16
- Mark 8:31-33: True Messiahship
- Mark 8:34-38: True Discipleship

Mark 8:31 He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. (see John 8:28)

1 Peter 1:1-2--SALVATION

God the Father planned it

God the Son carried it out

God the Spirit applies it

Mark 8:32 He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

Mark 8:33 But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

Mark 8:34 Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

3 Demands of True Discipleship

1) *He must deny himself*: (imperative) must renounce claims to self as the center of life--NO MORE self-centeredness, selfish ambition, self-promotion, self-preservation

2) *Take up his cross (daily)*: (imperative) a willingness to suffer for Jesus daily

3) *Follow me*: (imperative) lifelong persevering obedience to the life God has chosen for you

Mark 8:35 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.

Mark 8:36,37 ³⁶ What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷ Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

Mark 8:38 If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

Action Step #10: Submit to God & God's Will

Commitment versus Surrender

Difference: Control

Following Jesus REQUIRES Surrender

God's Will: God speaks by means of the Holy Spirit primarily through the Bible, then Prayer, Circumstances and other Christians to reveal Himself, His Purposes and His Ways.